



Inside Northside

BOARDTalk

BOARDTalk is published to help keep staff and citizens informed about actions of the Northside Independent School District Board of Trustees.

August 25, 2026

Interim Superintendent's Report (Click [HERE](#) to view video of the Superintendent's full comments.)

Ms. Palomares highlighted a series of milestones and events that showcase the vibrant culture and academic excellence of our district. They included:

- **Great Kickoff:** The first three weeks of school have gone exceptionally well. Palomares expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity to serve as Interim Superintendent.
- **Convocations:** NISD officially launched the new school year with six pep-rally-style convocation events featuring impressive student performances. Special thanks were extended to the fine arts teachers, participating students, and event organizers.
- **Stinson MS Magnet Opening:** The new magnet program at Stinson Middle School officially welcomed its inaugural cohort of 140 students focusing on Exercise Science and Sports Medicine.
- **Athletes in Action:** The return to school signals the start of a dynamic new athletics season, with competitive sports events slated to begin shortly.
- **VATRE & Bond Campaign:** District staff will lead educational community sessions over the coming weeks to inform voters about the upcoming Nov. 3 VATRE and Bond election.
- **Gratitude for Families:** Appreciation goes out to NISD families, whose flexibility, positivity, and patience helped ensure a smooth and successful start to the school year.

Board Members' Report (Comments below are summarized. Click [HERE](#) to view video of the Trustees' full comments.)

- **Trustee Sonia Jasso** commended Ross Middle School and its feeder schools for hosting a successful neighborhood opening event and recognized the strong energy displayed during this year's Convocation events. Additionally, Trustee Jasso visited Burke Elementary School to tour the campus and see students in their learning environment. She encouraged all campuses to continue inviting Board Trustees to upcoming campus activities and events.
- **Trustee Karla Duran** commended the district's Fine Arts Department and student performers for their work during the Convocation events. Duran also recognized Chief **Richard Palomo** and the NISD Police Department for their ongoing recruitment efforts, encouraging qualified individuals to apply. Finally, she advised staff to prioritize their mental wellness and practice mindfulness throughout the school year.
- **Trustee Bobby Blount** recognized the contributions of organizations supporting public education, including Celebrating Public Schools and the Bexar County Education Coalition. Additionally, Blount referenced ongoing initiatives aimed at improving elementary literacy and reading performance.
- **Trustee Laura Zapata** extended a welcome back for the new school year, highlighting the leadership across Northside and thanking the campus and department leaders in attendance.
- **Trustee Carol Harle** commended the annual Convocation events and noted that the student performances reflect why the district earned the Texas Art Education Association District of Distinction honor for a seventh consecutive year. Trustee Harle announced that the Northside Education Foundation will host benefit nights at designated football games to support district high schools, alongside offering Innovation and Team grants for teachers. She encouraged staff to submit nominations for the annual H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards. Lastly, Harle recognized Garcia Middle School eighth grader **Ava Cabalona** for her state and national achievements in girls wrestling, including a number five national ranking in her weight class.
- **Trustee Karen Freeman** expressed gratitude to district staff and families for their hard work preparing for the first day of school.

Trustees approve administrative appointments and assignments:

- **Marian Johnson**, formerly an Assistant Principal at Hobby Middle School, was appointed **Associate Principal at Hobby Middle School**.
- **Marissa Jones**, formerly an Assistant Principal at Fort Sam Houston ISD, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Briscoe Middle School**.
- **Jennifer Cipollone**, formerly an Assistant Principal at Luna Middle School, was appointed **Assistant Principal at Warren High School**.

Also appointed at the Aug. 11 Called Board meeting:

- **Julie Ziriaux**, formerly the Assistant Director of Budget and Research, was **appointed Director of Budget and Research**.

Board approves facilities items:

- Contractor for door numbering districtwide – Waterman Construction, LLC.
- Contractor for a library modernization districtwide – Waterman Construction, LLC
- Contractor for window security film districtwide for high schools – SafeHaven Defense US, LLC
- Contractor for window security film districtwide for middle schools – SafeHaven Defense US, LLC
- Contractor for window security film districtwide for elementary schools – SafeHaven Defense US, LLC

Bids for goods approved

Trustees approved the following bids, awards, and recognition items: occupational screening and drug & alcohol testing services; vehicles-model 2027; miscellaneous warehouse supplies; electrical equipment, parts, supplies, rentals, repairs, and services; and auction services. Trustees also approved the following purchase order: tractor rentals to transport band equipment trailers for the upcoming school year. For more information, contact the Purchasing Department at 210-397-8700.

You may mail correspondence to:

Trustees
c/o NISD
5900 Evers Road
San Antonio, TX 78238

You may email them at info@nisd.net.

For additional information, call 210-397-8770.

Board of Trustees

David Salcido, Trustee, District 1
Sonia Jasso, Ph.D., Trustee, District 2
Karla Duran, Ph.D., Trustee, District 3
Bobby Blount, Trustee, District 4
Laura Zapata, Trustee, District 5
Carol Harle, Ph.D., Trustee, District 6
Karen Freeman, Trustee, District 7

Administration

Interim Superintendent Jessica Palomares
Deputy Superintendent for Administration Jo Ann Fey, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Janis Jordan, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent for Business & Finance Megan Bradley
Assistant Superintendent of Communications Barry Perez

Board meeting information

NISD Trustees meet monthly in regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month. They may also meet in Called Meetings for workshops, retreats, or to handle routine business. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. in the Board Room, 5900 Evers Road, unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to the public. Agendas are posted on the NISD website, www.nisd.net. Citizens who wish to address the Board must sign up to speak just before the start of the meeting.

Upcoming School Board Meeting(s): *(See posted agendas on the website as dates, locations, and/or times may change.)*

- Sept. 29, 2026, 6 p.m., Northside Activity Center, 7001 Culebra Road (Regular Board Meeting)
- Oct. 27, 2026, 6 p.m., CO Board Room, 5900 Evers Road (Regular Board Meeting)
- Nov. 17, 2026, 6 p.m., CO Board Room, 5900 Evers Road (Regular Board Meeting)
- Dec. 15, 2026, 6 p.m., CO Board Room, 5900 Evers Road (Regular Board Meeting)